

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF COOK COUNTY  
FINANCE COMMITTEE

Taken Thursday, October 17, 2013  
at 1:30 p.m.

Cook County Board Room  
County Building  
118 North Clark Street  
Room 569  
Chicago, Illinois 60602

**PRESENT:**

**CHAIRMAN:** MR. JOHN P. DALEY

**VICE-CHAIR:** MS. DEBORAH SIMS

**COMMISSIONERS:** MR. JERRY BUTLER  
MS. EARLEAN COLLINS  
MR. JOHN A. FRITCHEY  
MS. BRIDGET GAINER  
MR. JESUS G. GARCIA  
MS. ELIZABETH ANN DOODY GORMAN  
MR. GREGG GOSLIN  
MR. STANLEY MOORE  
MS. JOAN PATRICIA MURPHY  
MR. EDWIN REYES  
MR. TIMOTHY O. SCHNEIDER  
MR. PETER N. SILVESTRI  
MR. ROBERT B. STEELE  
MR. LARRY SUFFREDIN  
MR. JEFFREY R. TOBOLSKI

**ALSO PRESENT:**

MR. MATTHEW B. DeLEON, Secretary  
MR. ANTHONY W. LISANTI, Court Reporter

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**OFFICES OF THE PRESIDENT**

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CHAIRMAN DALEY: Good afternoon. The Finance Committee of the Cook County Board will reconvene.

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Commissioners, we will have the offices of the President. Kimberly Foxx will be making the presentation.

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In talking to some of the Commissioners, we are trying to see if it is the wish of the Board that tomorrow afternoon we will have the Auditor and Administrative Hearings. I think some of the Commissioners have asked if we could move some of those departments forward, and we might do that. We will move the Auditor, and we are going to see if the Bureau of Administration can be here, along with the Administrative Hearings.

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We will now be with the Office of the President, Kimberly Foxx.

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MS. FOXX: Thank you, Chairman Daley, and Board of Commissioners.

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I am Deputy Chief of Staff to President Preckwinkle. I am here to present the 2014 budget recommendation for the offices under the President.

1                   This includes the Office of the  
2 President and the Justice Advisory Council. As part  
3 of this year's budget recommendation, the Department  
4 of Homeland Security and Emergency Management stands  
5 as a separate department.

6                   This year, as with those previous, we  
7 approached the budget with an eye towards our four  
8 tenets -- fiscal responsibility, innovative  
9 leadership, transparency and accountability, and  
10 improved services. As always, it starts with fiscal  
11 responsibility.

12                  The Office of the President's budget  
13 total appropriations for 2014 as recommended are  
14 \$1,569,999. This is the same appropriation as the  
15 2013 budget. Since taking office, the President has  
16 reduced her budget by thirty-three percent and cut  
17 the number of funded positions in half.

18                  This year, we have made changes to  
19 more fully illustrate actual office operations  
20 within the budget. This year's budget  
21 recommendation has been streamlined into three  
22 business units that more accurately reflect the  
23 operations of the office: the Office of the  
24 President, Legal and Legislative Affairs; and Public

## 1 Affairs and Communications.

5 Second is innovative leadership.

6 Public safety represents nearly a third of the  
7 County budget. It is a significant priority to the  
8 President, and she has led the charge to bring  
9 stakeholders together to identify ways to reduce  
10 pretrial detention we know that means all our  
11 stakeholders must be able to communicate and  
12 collaborate effectively. This is why this year we  
13 are investing \$1.5 million on a data-sharing tool  
14 that will allow all our public safety stakeholders  
15 to access and share information.

1 services. The President has spoken at length about  
2 her commitment to our healthcare system. This year  
3 we secured the 1115 waiver and began early enrolling  
4 patients who are eligible for Medicaid under early  
5 enrollment. We have also continued to expand our  
6 performance management initiative. This year we  
7 launched STAR 2.0 to help managers improve their  
8 operations by incorporating performance management  
9 data into their decision-making.

10 We started with the Bureau of  
11 Technology and the Office of the Chief Procurement  
12 Officer. In just under two months the Procurement  
13 Office has reduced the number of open requisitions  
14 to an all-time low by monitoring and tracking the  
15 workflow of our procurement process. Within the  
16 Bureau of Technology, we have improved tracking of  
17 technology requests and now we have begun posting  
18 open work orders on a screen in the waiting area in  
19 order to increase transparency and improve  
20 turnaround time.

21 While I am here to represent the  
22 President's Office, I know that the budget is a  
23 product of three years of collaboration with the  
24 President's Office and you, the Board of

1        Commissioners.

2                    I look forward to working with you as  
3        we continue to move forward in these efforts.

4                    I will now turn it over to Juliana  
5        Stratton, Director of the Justice Advisory Council.

6                    MS. STRATTON: Good afternoon, Chairman  
7        Daley, and to all of the Board of Commissioners.

8                    I am Juliana Stratton, Executive  
9        Director of the Justice Advisory Council.

10                  For our fiscal year 2014 budget, I  
11        will start by indicating the mission of the Justice  
12        Advisory Council. Then we will move into some of  
13        the highlights that we have accomplished in fiscal  
14        year 2013, and then talk about some of our  
15        initiatives for fiscal year 2014.

16                  The mission of the Justice Advisory  
17        Council is to coordinate and implement the  
18        President's criminal and juvenile justice reform  
19        efforts for public safety development. The  
20        President's four public safety goals are, first of  
21        all, to reduce the population at the Cook County  
22        jail as well as at the Cook County Juvenile  
23        Temporary Detention Center. Secondly, to do so in a  
24        way that preserves public safety. Thirdly, to

1 promote successful reintegration into communities;  
2 and, finally, to promote fair and equitable access  
3 to justice.

4 In terms of fiscal year '13, we worked  
5 very hard to broaden the pool of applicants for our  
6 recidivism reduction grant, as well as establishing  
7 a vigorous RFP process for our violence reduction  
8 grant dollars.

9 In addition, we have hosted our third  
10 Barriers to Reentry forum, and we have established  
11 quite a great working relationship with a number of  
12 the community-based service providers as it relates  
13 to recidivism reduction.

14 As for transparency and  
15 accountability, we continue to look at not only what  
16 is happening in Bond Court and how individuals are  
17 entering the jail on the front end, but we have  
18 expanded our examination of the issue of the  
19 increasing length of stay at the jail. We hosted  
20 and co-sponsored with the American Bar Association  
21 and Loyola University a forum on court efficiencies.

22 Then, finally, we are continuing to  
23 work with the stakeholders in the juvenile justice  
24 system to work on the population reduction effort at

1 the Cook County Juvenile Temporary Detention Center,  
2 while we are also working with them in planning for  
3 the implementation of the Raise the Age legislation  
4 as of January 1, 2014.

5 As we head into the new fiscal year,  
6 we will continue to look at efforts to divert  
7 individuals from the jail on the front end,  
8 including an initiative that we are working with  
9 Commissioner Gainer's office on street level  
10 diversion for prostitution cases. We will have  
11 additional reentry barriers to reentry forums, but  
12 we will do even more to look at what can be done in  
13 terms of technical assistance for organizations that  
14 often feel like they don't know how to apply for  
15 grants or how to partner with other organizations to  
16 be able to seek grant funding.

17 We will carry out the efforts at Bond  
18 Court that were funded through the MacArthur  
19 Foundation grant which was almost a half a million  
20 dollars, as you are aware of, to assemble a new  
21 cross-professional team that will help improve  
22 indigent defense.

23 I am happy to entertain any questions  
24 you may have about public safety initiatives through

1 the President's Office.

2 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Are there any questions  
3 for the Office of the President as well as Judicial  
4 Advisory?

5 Commissioner Collins.

6 COMMISSIONER COLLINS: Juliana, let me  
7 thank you for increasing the number of grants that  
8 you are receiving -- yes, the microphone is on --  
9 the number of grants that you have been able to  
10 obtain in working with the various agencies. That  
11 is a super good thing. That was not happening, and,  
12 again, there are more grants out there this year and  
13 I'm sure you will be able to tap into more of those.

14 I hear you talking about new programs,  
15 but I didn't hear you talking about the jail  
16 diversion program which has been successful, but has  
17 been lacking. It is an ordinance that is on the  
18 books. It was specifically targeting first the  
19 population of the mentally ill and second who was  
20 suffering from drug abuse. It then expanded to all  
21 adults and children, and then the targeted  
22 population would be those people in the high-crime  
23 areas.

24 Of course, those people who commit

1 minor offenses, and all of us agree, those who have  
2 been working in the profession for years as I have,  
3 that shouldn't be in jail in the first place.

4 Because that is the gateway to prison, the jails,  
5 and it continues increasing the recidivism rate over  
6 and over like a revolving door from generation to  
7 generation. That we don't need.

8 I didn't hear you talk about funding  
9 it at all, or working with me to get grants as  
10 Chairman of Criminal Justice, to fund the jail  
11 diversion.

12 What is your vision or your hopes of  
13 funding jail diversion? I didn't know if that was  
14 even your role. I thought your role was to secure  
15 proper grants and ensure that those grants are used;  
16 because we could be severely penalized from what  
17 they have been able to do. It is very important.  
18 Grants are basically specific to specific things.

19 Those are Federal Government. They  
20 are not only driven by census data, because the  
21 people who make up the number of people having the  
22 problems, or incidents who are suffering from the  
23 problems, are usually the intent of the legislation  
24 to be targeted more at that group of people; trying

1 to reduce the number of them, where there is an  
2 unusual number of people experiencing the same kinds  
3 of things.

4 It is like the crime. We can  
5 basically single out the communities. There is  
6 crime all over, but there are some communities where  
7 there is serious danger not only to the citizens,  
8 but to the police getting killed, or other law  
9 enforcement getting killed.

10 It would appear to me that we would be  
11 targeting money to that. But I didn't know that  
12 that was your role. We don't really get a chance to  
13 talk, for whatever reason, as much as we should.

14 I think those two things, not for you  
15 to do, should be separated out from each other and  
16 your role is to get the grants. I understand they  
17 are needed and they are monitored, but are they  
18 going into the things that they need to be done?  
19 That would be a great role for you.

20 But it seems like you are deciding who  
21 gets what and how much. That I am not comfortable  
22 with because some of the groups out there -- I know  
23 most of them on the west side of Chicago and a lot  
24 of them are on the south side of Chicago. I know

1 what they are capable of doing. I know what they  
2 are doing. I make it my business in the summertime  
3 is to go out and monitor. We have other people go  
4 out and asking for services and they don't even know  
5 what they are doing.

14 There are some special needs for those  
15 people. You can't determine them on your own. You  
16 have to have people involved, and their families  
17 involved, and others involved to make sure that they  
18 have a plan for each individual to reduce recidivism  
19 rates, to keep them from that revolving door, coming  
20 back into the system.

21 I haven't seen anything dealing with  
22 that kind of thing. Crisis intervention teams would  
23 do that, the centers would do that, the resources.  
24 Why do you feel that you should never -- we

1        shouldn't fund the jail diversion program because I  
2        haven't heard you say you were interested in doing  
3        it.

4                MS. STRATTON: I'm sorry I did not address  
5        that proposed ordinance or the legislation prior.

6                COMMISSIONER COLLINS: Forget the  
7        ordinance. Just speak about jail diversion.

8                MS. STRATTON: I understand. I was saying  
9        that I did not mention that in my previous comments,  
10        in my introductory comments. However, I do  
11        understand that you did have a meeting with  
12        President Preckwinkle recently regarding the  
13        diversion program. Our office is one hundred  
14        percent committed to working with you and your staff  
15        on continuing to look at that jail diversion efforts  
16        that you have proposed.

17               My understanding is that it is already  
18        an ordinance, and you had some proposed changes to  
19        that ordinance. We would be happy to work with you,  
20        and we certainly appreciate your efforts because you  
21        are absolutely right, as it relates to what we are  
22        looking at with the jail. We are looking at what is  
23        happening at Bond Court. But even before then, the  
24        more than we can do in terms of diversion, the

1 better. That is something we very much would like  
2 to see.

3 So, again, thank you for your  
4 leadership on that, and we would certainly like to  
5 support those efforts.

6 COMMISSIONER COLLINS: It is on the books.  
7 It is just not being funded. Even without the  
8 amendment, it should be funded. It should be a  
9 priority because it has been proven to work. Proven  
10 so much to work until all of the suburbs is  
11 basically becoming a part of jail diversion. They  
12 have put together their own social workers with  
13 every police station to help them, and to get the  
14 training to identify and recognize those people.

15 Many of them don't go to jail. They  
16 go to being detoxed or they go to being stabilized  
17 at hospitals. They have social workers monitoring  
18 them and keeping them on their medication.

19 MS. STRATTON: As for the funding, that is  
20 the conversation that will continue. What our  
21 office did distribute to the entire Board this  
22 morning was a list for the request of the  
23 Commissioners and Commissioner Gainer in particular,  
24 a list of the public safety grants and the funding

1       sources -- at least where those grants are going to.  
2       That will help give a better sense of where grant  
3       funding sources continue to be. That can be part of  
4       the ongoing conversation with your office.

5                   COMMISSIONER COLLINS: Who makes that  
6       determination?

7                   MS. STRATTON: Which determination?

8                   COMMISSIONER COLLINS: Where the grants are  
9       going to go. When you apply for the grants, you  
10      usually apply for something specific, for those that  
11      designate.

12                  MS. STRATTON: These are all grants. The  
13      document that was submitted are all grants that  
14      respect the various public safety stakeholders. The  
15      various public safety stakeholders identify that  
16      they had a particular project that they wanted  
17      funded and went to the various sources for grants.  
18      That is something that we can talk about as it  
19      relates to this particular initiative.

20                  COMMISSIONER COLLINS: As a Commissioner,  
21      can I apply for grants to fund the jail diversion  
22      program?

23                  MS. STRATTON: I can't speak for the  
24      various entities such as the Illinois Criminal

1       Justice Information Authority or any of the other  
2       grant-making entities as to whether or not they  
3       would accept something directly from a Commissioner.  
4       I am not aware of any Commissioners directly  
5       applying for a grant. But what I am saying is we  
6       will work with your office as this discussion  
7       continues about where to identify funding. We will  
8       be happy to work with you to determine the best  
9       entity to apply for those funds and how it should  
10      happen.

11                   CHAIRMAN DALEY: Vice Chair Sis.

12                   COMMISSIONER SIMS: Juliana, Commissioner  
13       Fritchey showed me this morning where the City of  
14       Chicago is dropping CeaseFire -- I guess it was a  
15       million dollars that they gave CeaseFire. I think  
16       we were on target when we were supporting the  
17       Roseland CeaseFire because it would be a travesty if  
18       the Roseland CeaseFire were to totally disappear.

19                   What do you do about those agencies  
20       like CeaseFire, not only in Roseland, but CeaseFire  
21       on the west side and CeaseFire on the southeast side  
22       of Chicago that are now probably going to be  
23       scrambling for funding? Have you looked or have you  
24       seen the article to try to figure out that those

1 CeaseFires that are functioning, and that are  
2 producing numbers where they are showing where they  
3 are helping in communities?

4 I know CeaseFire in Roseland was part  
5 of Safe passage. I don't know what the CeaseFires  
6 were doing, but I know that one in particular was  
7 part of that.

8 Are we looking to try to help to pick  
9 up that funding for those existing CeaseFires that  
10 are in those communities that probably need to still  
11 exist?

12 MS. STRATTON: Commissioner Sims, I am not  
13 aware of any additional efforts to identify funding  
14 for any particular organizations. We do have the  
15 recidivism reduction grants that are issued through  
16 an RFP process through the Justice Advisory Council  
17 as well as the violence prevention grants. Those  
18 are the two sources that I am aware of currently  
19 which any organization can apply.

20 COMMISSIONER SIMS: Now the violence  
21 prevention grant that we just allocated. When is  
22 the next round or applications coming out? Is that  
23 in 2014? Is there a pool where those agencies will  
24 still be able to get notice that there is going to

1 be a grant coming forward?

2 MS. STRATTON: First of all, the  
3 information is posted on the Office of the Chief  
4 Procurement Officer's website. Secondly, we also  
5 have some internal communication channels where we  
6 try to make sure that any community-based  
7 organizations that have a relationship with our  
8 office, we notify them of grant opportunities.

9 The funding cycle, assuming all is  
10 passed, last year I believe it was January that we  
11 issued the RFP. We are looking at that same time  
12 frame, around that same time frame. As you know,  
13 there are some things that we need to do to improve  
14 the process as we go forward, but as soon as those  
15 kinks are worked out we expect that in early 2014 we  
16 should see that going forward.

17 COMMISSIONER SIMS: Juliana, I want to  
18 thank you for coming today. We had a conversation  
19 back in the spring with young people, and I want to  
20 thank you for participating in that. I hope when we  
21 are looking for funding -- because you saw that the  
22 young people that were there were willing to talk  
23 and to get involved. They have a lot to say. We  
24 just didn't have enough time to hear all of the

1 stuff they wanted to say.

2 I hope that in your grant funding that  
3 we look for funding just for young people. Doing  
4 things like that, or to do a large summit for young  
5 people -- maybe there is a way to put something  
6 together to get them to have these conversations.  
7 There are a lot of kids that are afraid to speak.  
8 But in a forum like that, if you put something  
9 together, they feel comfortable and they will do  
10 that.

11 Maybe we should have a town hall  
12 meeting maybe to figure that out, instead of you and  
13 I saying that those different agencies should deal  
14 with that, or what kind of funding they need. Maybe  
15 you should put something like that together so we  
16 hear from the communities and say, "Where would you  
17 like to see the funding come from?"

18 Let me just back up -- let me back up  
19 so I don't confuse myself.

20 We should have town hall meetings to  
21 talk about where best to put the funding, I should  
22 say, because no matter how much we think we could  
23 solve all of the problems, we would never solve them  
24 all. I don't think all of this gang violence and

1       stuff is going to go away until we find some jobs  
2       for these young people because there is nothing for  
3       them to do. They say that the idle mind is the  
4       devil's workshop -- well, he is really busy. I know  
5       working with Karin Norington-Reeves, WIA -- in my  
6       opinion, that is not working. When Karin is here  
7       and she comes, I am going to tell her I don't think  
8       it is working.

9                   I talked to different agencies out  
10       there this summer to ask who got kids. The Board  
11       members here told me I shouldn't ask this question  
12       because with Shakman we shouldn't know that. I  
13       think that is wrong. Any time an elected official  
14       can't ask what kids got summer jobs, there is a  
15       problem. Because if you can't ask the question then  
16       there are no summer jobs for kids.

17                  I don't know of any kid that got a  
18       summer job this summer out of that program. I know  
19       we tried to do the City-County collaboration. I  
20       think that that was one collaboration that we should  
21       not have done because I think we could have found --  
22       that way, we would have something to track to say  
23       the County has put kids to work -- north, south,  
24       western suburbs.

1                   Because there is one thing I know  
2   about the City because I worked for the City -- the  
3   City is always going -- just like you guys and you  
4   guys know this -- the City is always going to take  
5   first. If it meant that there were ten kids to get  
6   a job and it was supposed to go to the City and the  
7   County, the City is going to get eight and the  
8   County is going to get the rest.

9                   We have to figure out how do we put  
10   the suburban kids to work. Even though I have City  
11   and suburbs in my District, some Commissioners only  
12   have all City. I have to be able to look at the  
13   young people in my District and say, "Yes, the  
14   County is helping young people get jobs." I could  
15   not say that at this point because I don't know of  
16   any kids that got any summer jobs.

17                  MS. STRATTON: Commissioner, you would be  
18   pleased to know that shortly after our conversation  
19   about this very same issue I did have a meeting -- I  
20   am sorry that her name escapes me -- but from the  
21   Chicago-Cook Workforce Partnership, who is working  
22   on juvenile justice issues. She and I had a  
23   specific conversation about how, as we look to  
24   planning for next year, either through One Summer

1 Chicago or other avenues, how we can expand a  
2 program for justice-involved youth in terms of jobs.

3 We are certainly taking that  
4 seriously, and we are looking into how we can do it  
5 better as we move forward.

6 COMMISSIONER SIMS: You can't put a number  
7 out there and say we have 114 opportunities. When  
8 you tell a kid 114 opportunities, it's an  
9 opportunity to do what? It doesn't say that there  
10 is 114 opportunities that equates to 114 jobs.

11 We have to be careful with the  
12 terminology. Please, next year when you all say  
13 that, don't say "opportunities" because an  
14 opportunity does not equate to an opportunity for a  
15 job in all instances. That is even what you guys  
16 said.

17 So we would like to say if there is  
18 114 kids that came in, out of that 114,000 came  
19 through the program, one thousand of them got jobs.  
20 Then we can say one thousand got jobs; how many went  
21 to the County, the kids that live in the suburban  
22 areas. If you just say that, we don't know. If we  
23 start asking questions, because of Shakman, nobody  
24 can tell us. But that appears to us that none of

1 the kids that we all have to work with got jobs.

2 That is all we are looking for is some  
3 clarity.

4 MS. STRATTON: I do understand. It was, to  
5 use the term, there were 180,000 opportunities which  
6 included tutoring, mentoring, and other internships.  
7 There were 20,000 jobs that were specifically  
8 identified. Then the additional jobs that we  
9 mentioned for the justice-involved youth coming out  
10 of the Cook County system.

11 I did send to all of the Board a  
12 report that identified the zip codes. We didn't  
13 have anything more specific than that, but it did  
14 identify the zip codes. There are suburban zip  
15 codes that are reflected. But, as I indicated, we  
16 are committed to improving the process going  
17 forward.

18 COMMISSIONER SIMS: I think that is all we  
19 are asking so that we have something we can actually  
20 look at and say we know that these young people are  
21 working.

22 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Suffredin.

23 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: Thank you, Mr.

24 Chairman, and ladies and gentlemen of the Committee.

1                   Ms. Foxx, I see in the presentation  
2 that you say the retitling of the number in this  
3 reorganization, under Shakman, has to be presented  
4 to the court. Has that been done? And will it be  
5 done by December when the budget takes effect?

6                   MS. FOXX: It has not yet been done. I  
7 will defer to Laura Lechowicz Felicione in terms of  
8 finding.

9                   COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: Anything to get  
10 her to the mike

11                   MS. FELICIONE: Laura Lechowicz Felicione  
12 -- good afternoon, Commissioners.

13                   There are a number of Shakman-related  
14 changes in this budget. We are working through  
15 preparing the notice to the Inspector General as  
16 well as the Compliance Administrator. Pursuant to  
17 the employment plan, the IG will then have fourteen  
18 days to either approve or deny our request.

19                   I do anticipate, based upon the nature  
20 of these positions, that these changes will be  
21 implemented prior to the start of the fiscal year.

22                   COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: When you said  
23 "this budget", since we are talking about the Office  
24 of the President's budget, is that the budget that

1 you are referring to? Or the broader budget? Are  
2 there other Shakman-related issues?

3 MS. FELICIONE: There are some minor  
4 changes in their departments. For example, the ERP  
5 is listed as its own separate department within the  
6 Bureau of Finance. We are required to give notice  
7 to the Inspector General. There is a position that  
8 is being transferred from the Law Library to the  
9 Secretary of the Board which will require notice to  
10 the Inspector General as well as the Shakman  
11 modification.

12 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: But primarily when  
13 you were talking about this budget you were talking  
14 about right now the Office of the President, this  
15 reorganization?

16 MS. FELICIONE: Yes.

17 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: Ms. Foxx, there  
18 are a number of people who are grade 24s who are  
19 involved in this reorganization. Are any of them  
20 getting pay raises as this reorganization takes  
21 effect?

22 MS. FOXX: There are pay raises that are  
23 included in this budget, yes.

24 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: Could you get us

1 those pay raises? We normally get them after the  
2 fact from HR. I think because of some discussions  
3 that Commissioner Sims has been having about 24s in  
4 general, it will be helpful for us to see how the  
5 President's Office is handling 24s.

6 MS. FOXX: Certainly. We can do that.

7 Thank you.

8 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: On the  
9 Commissioner on Women. Since you have been the  
10 Acting Director of the Commission on Women, I  
11 presume this is a seamless process of just coming  
12 over and doing this?

13 MS. FOXX: As far as government goes, yes.  
14 It has been rather seamless. The work of the  
15 Commission continues on. With the new resolution,  
16 we have empowered the Commission to take on more  
17 responsibility for the work. That doesn't  
18 necessitate having a dedicated staff person to do  
19 it.

20 In the interim, being the liaison  
21 between the President's Office and the Commission,  
22 what we foresee is that with the communications and  
23 the outreach, we will be able to fold in some of  
24 those efforts as well. I believe that will be a

1       seamless transition.

2                   COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: That will be one  
3 responsibility you can give up as you take on a lot  
4 of other responsibilities going forward?

5                   MS. FOXX: Yes.

6                   COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: Ms. Stratton, a  
7 couple of questions.

8                   The RFP process that you were  
9 describing to Commissioner Sims on these various  
10 antiviolence programs. I don't see the roughly \$2  
11 million in your budget. Where is the \$2 million?  
12 Is it \$2 million or is it another number for those  
13 grants?

14                  MS. STRATTON: It would not be reflected in  
15 the Justice Advisory Council budget, *per se*. But I  
16 will defer to the Budget Director, Andrea Gibson, to  
17 explain.

18                  MS. GIBSON: The \$1.9 million is in the  
19 same place as it was last year, which is in fixed  
20 charges in the 499 department, account 298.

21                  COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: This is money that  
22 is coming from our general revenue. This is not  
23 part of any grant that we talked about?

24                  MS. GIBSON: That's right.

1                   COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: So the \$1.9  
2 million is there, in the budget?

3                   MS. GIBSON: Yes.

4                   COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: In the document  
5 that you passed out today, and looking at your STAR  
6 goals and targets, you talked about the percentage  
7 of orders in the Central Bond Court resulting in EM  
8 or I-bonds. Your goal in 2012 was to get to twenty-  
9 five percent. I think in 2012 you get actually to  
10 twenty-five percent.

11                  For this year, you're projecting  
12 thirty percent. Do you have any idea where we are  
13 at this moment?

14                  MS. STRATTON: I can tell you right now  
15 there are about 1400 orders to electronic  
16 monitoring, orders by the Judges. As it relates to  
17 that page four of the presentation, it only shows on  
18 the chart at the bottom through August. I don't  
19 have the September and October. We are still in the  
20 middle of October. I just don't have the September  
21 numbers there. But we are forecasting that there  
22 would be about a thirty percent year-end average  
23 percentage. That is right at the target where we  
24 wanted to be.

1 So we are projecting for fiscal year  
2 2014 hoping to see that goal even higher to about  
3 thirty-five percent of those releases.

9 MS. STRATTON: I would have to do some  
10 additional research and get back to you in terms of  
11 the exact numbers in terms of national trends. I do  
12 know that we are high as it relates to the number of  
13 pretrial detainees that we have at the jail. That  
14 would lead me to believe, just based upon  
15 speculation, that we probably don't have as high a  
16 release number in terms of EM and I-bonds. But I  
17 will look into that and get back to you.

18 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: I don't know about  
19 these other jurisdictions. I just saw for 2012 we  
20 had felony new cases, indictments, 22,753 -- or 4.  
21 That is a lot of cases. We disposed of 22,500. I  
22 don't know if those other jurisdictions are dealing  
23 with that volume. That is something we also need to  
24 look into.

1                   In the grant from MacArthur that you  
2 are administering, the State's Attorney gets one new  
3 Assistant State's Attorney, I think; am I right? Am  
4 I reading that right?

5                   MS. STRATTON: No. The grant from  
6 MacArthur is specifically to help support indigent  
7 defense, including two additional Public Defenders  
8 as well as additional backlog clearance specialists  
9 that are hired as contractual employees through the  
10 Safer Foundation.

11                  COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: The Illinois  
12 criminal justice information grant that seems to  
13 indicate three additional adult probation officers,  
14 one Assistant State's Attorney, and one adult  
15 Redeploy Illinois attorney. Do you know if the  
16 State's Attorney is putting that person? Is that  
17 someone who goes into post-conviction? Do you have  
18 any idea how that person is used to help us reach  
19 the goals here that the grant is intended for?

20                  MS. STRATTON: Adult Redeploy Illinois is a  
21 program that is specifically designed to help divert  
22 people from the Illinois Department of Corrections.  
23 Oftentimes when there is someone who is at risk of  
24 violating probation, and at risk of going to IDOC,

1 then that is where the Adult Redeploy Court comes  
2 in. So someone, the State's Attorney and the other  
3 stakeholders will be a part of that court, which is  
4 currently managed by Judge Portman in the Criminal  
5 Division.

6 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: It would not then  
7 be part of what the State's Attorney's Office calls  
8 their Diversion Unit, which diverts cases either  
9 from prosecution to keep them out of the system,  
10 from beginning, or has diversion sentences that  
11 cause people to vacate a plea after a successful  
12 completion of certain programs?

13 MS. STRATTON: You would have to confirm  
14 with the State's Attorney's Office in terms of how  
15 they designate this particular program. But I do  
16 know what we would traditionally think of as the  
17 State's Attorney's diversion or deferred prosecution  
18 programs -- Adult Redeploy was not created out of  
19 that.

20 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: Your office was  
21 involved in helping to design some of the new space  
22 at Twenty-Sixth Street and some of the space that  
23 was supposed to make us more efficient. Is that  
24 space working? And/or is it understaffed and,

1 therefore, its full capacity isn't met? Your full  
2 thoughts on that?

3 MS. STRATTON: What I can is what we  
4 intended to do is to allow for space that was more  
5 compliant with the Pretrial Service Act. Also a  
6 space that was more humane for the detainees or the  
7 arrestees that were awaiting Bond Court. From that  
8 standpoint, we believe we were successful.

9 Previously, as you may know, there was  
10 one -- what they called the "bullpen". I dislike  
11 that term, but that was the name of it. The  
12 interviews would take place through the bars with  
13 attorneys and Pretrial Services conducting  
14 interviews by yelling through the bars and getting  
15 information that way.

16 The Pretrial Services Act requires  
17 that there is a confidential space to be able to be  
18 interviewed so that they can get the information  
19 that can be helpful to the Judges.

20 So the build-out of the space was to  
21 allow for the interviews to be held, private spaces  
22 where the attorneys and/or Pretrial Services can  
23 talk to the detainees directly, and also have some  
24 privacy and more humane conditions. We believe it

1 was successful.

2 There is still, of course, a high  
3 volume. We are continuing to monitor what happens  
4 there. If there are any kinks, we can respond to  
5 those to make sure that we can work it out. But  
6 right now we do believe that we accomplished the  
7 initial goal of what we set out to do.

14 Thank you.

15 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Moore.

16 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Thank you, Mr.  
17 Chairman.

18 Good afternoon. I agree with  
19 Commissioner Sims. There are a lot of groups in our  
20 communities who need funding and want funding.  
21 Groups like CeaseFire and groups like Riverdale.  
22 Groups like Riverdale Outreach in my community  
23 currently have little or no funding at all.

24 During one of the most violent years

1 that my District has seen in many years, I just need  
2 more of a clear understanding from reading this here  
3 where we say that we conduct seminars for grant  
4 applicants to increase fiscal capacity and  
5 accountability, to better target the resources for  
6 recidivism reduction. But this last award of  
7 grantees -- I may have came on board late, but I  
8 don't know how we let people know about these  
9 programs, and, if so, if it is held in a community,  
10 how do I go about arranging something like that for  
11 all the groups in my area?

12 MS. STRATTON: Thank you, Commissioner, for  
13 the question. Because that is something we are  
14 hoping that we can continue to partner with all of  
15 your offices, and that is making sure that the word  
16 gets out to your respective Districts and to the  
17 various community-based organizations in your  
18 Districts so that they are aware of our grant  
19 opportunities and how they can partner with us.

20 We believe that government serves its  
21 role, but we know what we are trying to accomplish  
22 as it relates to public safety, that the community  
23 and the community-based organizations are the key  
24 stakeholders there.

1                   One of the things we did, we did  
2 notify all of the Commissioners of the grant  
3 opportunities and ask they be posted on your  
4 respective websites. As we continue to host our  
5 reentry forums, our various reentry forums, we are  
6 continuing to gather and galvanize a number of  
7 organizations. There are over probably about two  
8 hundred organizations that are now aware of the work  
9 that we are trying to do, and let them know that we  
10 want to partner with them.

11                  As you referenced, conducting  
12 seminars, increased fiscal capacity and  
13 accountability -- that is a direct result of the  
14 reentry forums.

15                  What we were first looking at is what  
16 are the barriers to reentry as it relates to  
17 housing, education, employment. What we found in  
18 our last forum, which was held in the western  
19 suburbs, that they said that some of the smaller  
20 organizations, we are not even sure how to get into  
21 the process of applying. We would like to partner.  
22 We would love to see more seed grants.

23                  We are certainly open to that. When  
24 we say "conducting seminars", this is our goal for

1 the fiscal year 2014. We did not do that this year,  
2 but we identified the need and now, going forward in  
3 the next fiscal year, this is where we will want to  
4 do that.

5 We will make it a point to inform all  
6 you Commissioners of when those activities are  
7 taking place so you can then get the word out in  
8 your respective organizations.

9 I will also say that if there are any  
10 organizations that are interested to be on our  
11 contact list, you can also send me that information  
12 as well.

13 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Thank you very much.

14 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Garcia.

15 COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Thank you, Mr.  
16 Chairman.

17 Julian, there has been quite a bit of  
18 conversation all over the metro area about  
19 restorative justice and restorative justice hubs.  
20 As we look at next year's budget, in your  
21 interactions and engagements in groups that are  
22 advocates, practitioners, people who would like to  
23 see a concept of restorative justice spread  
24 throughout the region, can you share anything about

1 what we may see next year so as to grow the practice  
2 of restorative justice?

3 MS. STRATTON: Absolutely, Commissioner.

4 First of all, the President has  
5 expressed her support of seeing more restorative  
6 justice practices utilized. She has participated in  
7 presentations by many of the practitioners and  
8 advocate for restorative justice, as have I. We are  
9 very interested in seeing more efforts utilized.

10 There are already restorative  
11 practices being utilized by the State's Attorney's  
12 Office, through Juvenile Probation, and with youths  
13 that are in the JTDC currently. As we look at  
14 alternatives to detention, we have to look at what  
15 we need to do to reduce the population, to look at  
16 more community-based alternatives to detention,  
17 restorative justice is certainly something where we  
18 want to see more investments made. That is one of  
19 the subcategories that is listed under our violent  
20 reduction grant. We would encourage any  
21 organization to apply for those grants.

22 I am certainly open to continued  
23 conversations with those that are doing this type of  
24 work as to how we can find more opportunities for

1 them to do that both within the community, but also  
2 directly related to these entities that I mentioned  
3 previously.

4 COMMISSIONER GARCIA: In the same vein  
5 regarding the question of jail crowding at the Cook  
6 County jail. The efforts to try to reduce the  
7 population at the jail has been frustrating for many  
8 of us; I think including the President.

9 I am wondering if we are able to  
10 figure out how to do that as we end the year and as  
11 we begin 2014. If we could do that, and the savings  
12 were generated as a result of such a reduction,  
13 might that yield resources for things like  
14 prevention and restorative justice practices in the  
15 communities that need it the most, in your opinion?

16 MS. STRATTON: Absolutely. I believe that  
17 is the President's goal. The goal I have heard  
18 expressed by the Board, which is that we are  
19 spending so much on pretrial detention at the jail  
20 as well as at the Juvenile Temporary Detention  
21 Center, that it does not free up the resources that  
22 could be available to invest in community-based  
23 alternatives.

24 Right now, you asked a question about

1 what can be done in this process. As you know, the  
2 President has sought the assistance of the Illinois  
3 Supreme Court. Chief Justice Kilbright has  
4 responded that he is calling a meeting that will  
5 take place in November, that will bring together all  
6 of the stakeholders to look at what we can do as it  
7 relates to pretrial detention, and getting that  
8 population down.

9                   But at the same time, you state  
10 exactly what the sentiment is. You expressed that  
11 we can either put money in detaining people, where  
12 they are not getting the kinds of services as it  
13 relates to their mental health, as it relates to  
14 substance abuse treatment, as it relates to things  
15 connected with the families, jobs, and school, or we  
16 can reduce the population, spend less money on the  
17 jail, and put more funding into community-based  
18 alternatives.

19                   That is where we believe we will see  
20 the turnaround in terms of strengthening and  
21 stabilizing communities.

22                   COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Thank you very much.  
23 I hope that we are able, with the assistance of the  
24 Supreme Court, to figure out a way to do that

1 because I think it is money that is not well-spent  
2 and that it could be much more effective in  
3 preventing the type of overcrowding that we are  
4 experiencing.

5 Thank you very much.

6 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Collins.

7 COMMISSIONER COLLINS: Juliana, every two  
8 years they do reports on juveniles and they talk  
9 about the failures. They talk a lot about things  
10 like restorative justice. It works. It is one of  
11 the most important factors for the disparity in the  
12 number of African Americans and Latinos in our  
13 jails.

14 Granted restorative justice does not  
15 work without community-based resources and people in  
16 the communities, committed in the communities, and a  
17 good relationship between the community and the  
18 people, the residents of the community, especially  
19 the kids and the other areas. I don't know who gets  
20 those reports, but prior to this Administration, we  
21 got them every two years.

22 You must do that research. If you  
23 pick up those documents every two years, they put  
24 out a document by the State. It has all kinds of

1 information, the pros and cons, the numbers of  
2 arrests, the comparison, and everything that you  
3 need to know about how do we make it work.

4 It's not about racism. It is about  
5 economics. Because we don't have the alternative  
6 services, services at the community-based level.  
7 That is where we have to focus the grants.

8 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Are there any other  
9 questions?

10 Thank you very much for your  
11 presentation.

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1                   **OFFICE OF THE COUNTY AUDITOR**

2                   CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioners, it is my  
3                   understanding that the County Auditor and the  
4                   Administrative Hearings are available. They were  
5                   scheduled for tomorrow afternoon, so if it is the  
6                   wish of the Board -- we also have Facilities. We  
7                   can take them now, these three departments, and they  
8                   will move quickly.

9                   We will first hear now from the County  
10                  Auditor, Ms. Shelly Banks. Welcome, Shelly, for  
11                  your first presentation.

12                  MS. BANKS: Thank you.

13                  I am Shelly Banks, Office of the  
14                  County Auditor. Good afternoon, Mr. Chairman, and  
15                  Commissioners.

16                  It is a privilege to be here today to  
17                  present the fiscal year 2014 Office of the County  
18                  Auditor budget. With our 2014 budget submission, we  
19                  recognize the need to obtain cost savings while  
20                  still offering the best services possible. Our 2014  
21                  budget request represents an overall reduction from  
22                  the 2013 budget.

23                  Our 2014 budget submission reflects an  
24                  increase in staff through hiring two field auditors

1       in lieu of filling a higher-salaried deputy auditor  
2       position. We believe that hiring field auditors  
3       will allow us to continue to build a strong team to  
4       focus on our core mission of providing audit  
5       services that add value and improve the County's  
6       operations.

7                    Within the last few months, we have  
8       made concerted efforts to build upon the office  
9       operations in order to ensure that we operate in the  
10      most effective and efficient manner possible. The  
11      external quality assessment report identified some  
12      key areas for improvement within the County  
13      Auditor's Office. Out of the eight findings, we  
14      have completely implemented six, with significant  
15      work completed towards the other two.

16                   Previously the audit processes were  
17      highly manual, causing additional audit time. By  
18      utilizing SharePoint, an existing technology  
19      solution, we have automated our audit processes to  
20      help us spend less time on manual tasks and more  
21      time on audit work. The SharePoint portal also  
22      increases the County Auditor's Office's  
23      transparency.

24                   We realize the importance of

1 technology and the increased role Information  
2 Technology will play in the county. In fiscal year  
3 2013, we hired an IT audit supervisor, developed an  
4 IT audit program, and initiated five IT audits.  
5 Based on management needs and/or risks identified,  
6 we also increased our overall audit coverage for  
7 fiscal year 2013 from eight to sixteen audits.

The improvements we have made enabled us to create an aggressive and extensive fiscal year 2014 audit plan. To prepare the annual audit plan, we developed and implemented a countywide risk assessment program. Since this was the first year for the countywide risk assessment program, we focused on offices under the President, and planned to expand the risk assessment in fiscal year 2014 to include the elected officials. With this risk assessment, we utilize key data factors and evaluation criteria to assess the risks across the various departments and programs. From this analysis and meeting with various management staff, we have developed a fiscal year 2014 audit plan containing twenty-four audits and seven IT audits.

1 audit plan also includes time built in for  
2 management consulting and special audits that may  
3 arise during the year. In addition, we realize the  
4 importance of the CAFR audit, and have dedicated  
5 time to continue to assist the Comptroller's Office  
6 in this process.

7 We are appreciative of our budget, and  
8 for the opportunity to continue to build our team.  
9 The County Auditor's Office strives to utilize the  
10 resources it has to continue to add value to the  
11 operations of County government.

12 Thank you for the opportunity to  
13 present the Office of the County Auditor's budget.

14 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Shelly, I am not sure if  
15 you were here earlier. I think you were, but during  
16 the Finance presentation we asked specifically about  
17 Johnson Controls, whether or not you are working  
18 independently, if you have the ability to go in and  
19 audit them?

20 MS. BANKS: Yes. We do have the ability.  
21 We actually have that audit in the fiscal year 2014  
22 audit plan. We have had preliminary discussions  
23 with John Cooke on that.

24 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Are there any questions of

1 the Auditor?

2 Commissioner Gainer.

3 COMMISSIONER GAINER: Thank you, Chairman  
4 Daley.

5 We had asked this question about  
6 contracts that require, or have within them the fact  
7 that the vendor gets paid based on either assumption  
8 of savings or prediction of savings or their actual  
9 savings. We had asked the Procurement Officer and  
10 the CFO if they were aware of any contracts. They  
11 said they were not aware of any to their knowledge.  
12 I will ask you the same question. Are you aware of  
13 any others outside of Accenture, which is over now,  
14 and Johnson Controls?

15 MS. BANKS: No, I am not.

16 COMMISSIONER GAINER: Thank you.

17 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Garcia.

18 COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Thank you, Mr.  
19 Chairman.

20 Shelly, in a letter that was shared  
21 with us by the Inspector General, recognizing that  
22 you are fairly new to the office, there was  
23 references made by the Inspector General to some  
24 consulting contracts to perform revenue-generating

1       functions that Cook County Health & Hospitals System  
2       made reference to the Auditor's Department, and  
3       enhancing their ability to monitor certain aspects  
4       of the functions of those contracts.

5                    Could you discuss that briefly; what  
6        has come up, if there has been conversations with  
7       the IG's office about that, about developing or  
8       enhancing some of the expertise as it relates to the  
9       auditing of some of those contracts?

10                  MS. BANKS: The Inspector General's Office  
11        hasn't had those conversations with our office.  
12       They have been with the Health and Hospitals System.  
13       They have their own internal audit department.

14                  COMMISSIONER GARCIA: It is not your  
15        department?

16                  MS. BANKS: Correct. No, it is not.

17                  COMMISSIONER GARCIA: That that reference  
18        was made to -- thank you.

19                  CHAIRMAN DALEY: Any other questions?

20                  Thank you very much, Shelly.

21                  MS. BANKS: Thank you.

22                  CHAIRMAN DALEY: A great presentation.

23        Thank you.

24

1                   **DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING**2                   The next department will be the Bureau  
3                   of Administrative Hearings, John Allen.4                   MR. ALLEN: Good afternoon, Mr. Chairman,  
5                   and to the Commissioners. I appreciate the  
6                   opportunity to present my department to you this  
7                   afternoon.8                   I represent the Department of  
9                   Administrative Hearings. As you know, several years  
10                   ago you created the law to allow fair and impartial  
11                   hearings of ordinance violations issued by the  
12                   Sheriff, by the Forest Preserves, and by the Office  
13                   of the Sheriff. Since then we have grown  
14                   substantially to include -- I call them client  
15                   agencies. Departments such as Animal Control,  
16                   Environmental Control, Department of Highways and  
17                   Transportation, all now bring their citations to my  
18                   department to have a hearing and be adjudicated.19                   In spite of that growth, we have tried  
20                   to keep our budget fairly modest. The amount of  
21                   growth that you see from last year to this year is  
22                   only responsible for the transfer of one employee  
23                   from the Bureau of Technology to my department. We  
24                   have one employee -- who is actually here -- Mr.

1 Hatch. He was stationed to us from the Bureau of  
2 Technology. He is really part of our group so we  
3 brought him on.

4 By bringing him over from Technology  
5 to my department, the salary actually amounts to a  
6 \$15,000 savings to the County by bringing him on and  
7 including him in this way.

8 We have tried to include some  
9 substantial accomplishments in the past year. One  
10 of our main goals, as we bring on more client  
11 agencies, is to increase the amount of communication  
12 between ourselves and the client agencies as well as  
13 constituents. We have a case management system  
14 acronym that we call "DACRA". With DACRA we can  
15 track the citation from the time it is filed with us  
16 until adjudication. But also we can track and  
17 interface with the Department of Revenue, what  
18 tickets are being paid, and which tickets are not  
19 being paid.

20 We started allowing our client  
21 agencies to have not only access to our case  
22 management system, but in that way they can see  
23 where the case is, when the case is set for trial,  
24 as well as what tickets have been paid. We feel

1 that helps efficiencies, so the employees are not  
2 calling our agency every other day to see what they  
3 need to get their jobs done. Instead they can look  
4 it up on their own system right there at their  
5 desks.

6 Every department that we interact with  
7 has given good marks on how well the system is  
8 acting for them at the time.

1 want to plead it out? Or do you want to continue to  
2 have it tried?"

3 The next court date that we give them  
4 is for a trial date. When the investigator looks to  
5 see what is on the next Wednesday trial docket, he  
6 can see if his case is on there. He can see if he  
7 is ready for trial. If not, he can go back to work  
8 in the field and enforce the taxes.

9 Lastly, we work with the Department of  
10 Revenue on the automobile use tax cases. We  
11 originally had set a docket of one hearing a month  
12 to hear about 250 cases a day. That is the backup  
13 that was built up in Revenue. By utilizing the  
14 DACRA database, the computer capability was  
15 collecting it for the Department of Revenue, and  
16 working back and forth we can have a data match with  
17 axle spreadsheets and the DACRA database, and rate  
18 the cases quickly and automatically. That takes  
19 about less than two minutes to download the case, of  
20 about five hundred cases.

21 So we increased our caseload to five  
22 hundred cases every day, for two days a month. We  
23 essentially are quadrupling the caseload we expect  
24 to handle. That will help to get rid of the backlog

1       quicker.

2                   In the coming year, we are looking  
3       forward to absorbing a few more departments. One in  
4       particular is the Department of Human Rights which  
5       has been hearing cases on their own. We will now be  
6       able to hear those cases ourselves. Because we  
7       already have the structure and the case management  
8       system in place, we feel that we can absorb the  
9       entire budget that Human Rights planned, which is a  
10      savings to the County of \$30,000.

11                  Earlier this year, the Recorder of  
12      Deeds worked in Springfield to pass the law to help  
13      handle a significant problem where certain groups  
14      were filing false deeds in the Recorder of Deeds'  
15      Office, which was causing chain of title problems.  
16      The new law allows the Recorder of Deeds to refer  
17      those cases to us. We can declare the deed  
18      fraudulent, if there is evidence of fraud proved.  
19      That would clean the title up so they can actually  
20      sell houses.

21                  We have also worked with the Chief  
22      Purchasing Officer to enhance or to rectify the  
23      ability for the CPO to disqualify vendors. Right  
24      now, the Cook County Code allows for the CPO to

1 disqualify or bar certain vendors who were convicted  
2 of bad acts, such as an indictment, or where a  
3 conviction occurs. This way we worked out the  
4 details and the process so that if something happens  
5 the County has a way to protect itself from vendors  
6 that are unscrupulous.

7                   Earlier this year, the Commissioners  
8 passed a series of ordinances that allowed citizens  
9 to be protected against certain public nuisances.  
10 The Sheriff writes tickets for stuff like disorderly  
11 conduct, marijuana cases, failure to register a gun.  
12 Those cases are being heard by my department as  
13 well.

14                   Last year we had a caseload of about  
15 30,000 cases. We have already exceeded that  
16 caseload this year. Right now, we are at about  
17 34,000 cases as of yesterday. I believe 39,000  
18 cases by the end of November.

19                   The \$16 million from last year  
20 includes a \$4.5 million judgment from a large tax  
21 case that has currently been overruled by the Cook  
22 County Circuit Court. The State's Attorney has  
23 assured me that that case will be won on appeal. We  
24 will see what happens.

1                   We have tried to keep the expenses  
2 down on the costs that we are paying out to our  
3 Administrative Law Judges. As I said in my  
4 confirmation hearing in March, I am trying to  
5 instill a culture of honesty, fairness,  
6 impartiality. As my Judges work, their focus is not  
7 on revenue generation, but on the administration of  
8 justice.

9                   You can see in the bottom graph that  
10 we have got our average costs per case, which is  
11 simply taking the amount I pay the Judges divided by  
12 the number of cases we have heard in a certain time  
13 frame. That comes up to right now an average of  
14 fifteen dollars a case for the past year. Actually,  
15 the average is seventeen, but the actual costs from  
16 last year, per caseload, is fifteen dollars per  
17 case. We are trying to keep it at that to make it  
18 as efficient to the County as possible.

19                   I tend to talk fast. I hope you  
20 understood everything I said. Court reporters used  
21 to hate me.

22                   Any questions?

23                   CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Suffredin.

24                   COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: Thank you, Mr.

1 Chairman, and ladies and gentlemen of the Committee.

1 management system, the DACRA, which I talked about  
2 and which he seemed very fond of. I again made the  
3 offer that we can do this for you. The answer was  
4 very quickly, "We'd rather do it on our own." There  
5 wasn't a whole lot of opportunity for discussion.  
6 We brought it up at least three times over the  
7 course of our few conversations. I believe I can  
8 handle it.

9                   COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: Madam Budget  
10 Director -- I would hope that there can be some  
11 discussion with the Assessor's Office. If we start  
12 having a whole bunch of Administrative Judges in the  
13 County, we are going to undo what we were trying to  
14 do by having a centralized administrative  
15 adjudication. If we are going to have different pay  
16 rates for lawyers who are functioning as Judges for  
17 the Assessor versus lawyers who are functioning as  
18 Judges in this program, we are going to undermine  
19 it.

20                   We are also going to hurt the  
21 relationships we are trying to develop with other  
22 jurisdictions, including the City of Chicago's  
23 administrative adjudication and some of the Home  
24 Rule units that have their own.

1                   I think we ought to look at this. I  
2 just reread the State law. The Assessor has the  
3 discretion and could designate this office. I think  
4 it would be a financial savings to the office. I  
5 think this is something we should look at before we  
6 finish this budget.

7                   MS. GIBSON: Okay. We will do it.

8                   COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: Thank you, Mr.  
9 Allen.

10                  CHAIRMAN DALEY: Any other questions?

11                  Thank you very much, and  
12 congratulations.

13                  MR. ALLEN: Thank you. I appreciate that.  
14 Thank you for your time.

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1                   **DEPARTMENT OF FACILITIES MANAGEMENT**2                   CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioners, the final  
3                   department today will be the Department of  
4                   Facilities Management.

5                   James D'Amico.

6                   MR. D'AMICO: Good afternoon, Chairman  
7                   Daley, Cook County Commissioners of the Finance  
8                   Committee, President's Office.9                   This Administration rolled out much  
10                  efficiency that has mirrored business. Business  
11                  owners are the taxpayers of this great county, and  
12                  they demand results. President Preckwinkle mandated  
13                  goals and targets. This wasn't just another new  
14                  initiative that fell by the wayside. This is a  
15                  system where accountability is the ultimate goal,  
16                  and the result is to prove to the taxpayers they are  
17                  receiving a product at the best price.18                  Business is measured by speed and the  
19                  bottom line. Government is measured by process.  
20                  Performance management or STAR is a process which  
21                  established measureable results that can be compared  
22                  to business in Facilities Management. The  
23                  presentation in front of you outlines both speed and  
24                  process, both measured and delivered at the best

1 price.

2                   Having your contemporaries,  
3 colleagues, and the Administration present quarterly  
4 to review your budget and goals is daunting, but the  
5 system has allowed Facilities Management to return  
6 \$1 million back to the treasury -- again, for the  
7 third straight year. All of Facilities Management's  
8 goals and targets are taxpayer dollars related.

9                   We measure ourselves not to the City  
10 of Chicago or the State of Illinois or another  
11 municipality, but to the industry with which we must  
12 compete, the Building Owners Management Association,  
13 otherwise known as "BOMA".

14                   Your buildings are the anchors of the  
15 communities in which they are located, representing  
16 government and justice. Cook County's buildings can  
17 now be viewed as leaders versus private building  
18 owners. Our tenants, staff, and the Federal  
19 Government have stated and documented that we are in  
20 the upper percentile of our services, and ownership,  
21 as is representative of the Department of Justice  
22 placing Facilities Management in one hundred percent  
23 substantial compliance. We, the office under the  
24 President, are the only agency to reach this

1 category and sustain one hundred percent substantial  
2 compliance.

15 This proposal in front of you will  
16 establish the same devices to be purchased and  
17 utilized at the Department of Corrections.

18 Our custodial staff has been reduced  
19 to reflect the industry staffing levels. The will  
20 of this Body in February of 2011 was to transfer  
21 custodial to Facilities Management. I followed a  
22 business plan, instituting policies and procedures,  
23 holding them to the same level of accountability as  
24 the rest of this department, and the results are now

1       in -- less than two years there is a reduction of  
2       more than \$2 million taxpayer dollars, \$3 million if  
3       you count fringe benefits. The team is staffed  
4       appropriately per BOMA standards. We are now able  
5       to expand these services to the Department of  
6       Highways and Transportation garages, as some of you  
7       requested throughout the year. That was a great  
8       recommendation, Vice Chair Sims. So good Budget  
9       Director Gibson, Deputy Chief of Staff Foxx pulled  
10      all stakeholders together and demanded we explore  
11      the possibility to maintain these garages with an  
12      in-house workforce.

13                   Now we're expanding to trade and  
14       engineering work to maintain these facilities, which  
15       will save that department contractual dollars.

16                   Also, last year, the will of this  
17       Board was to reduce our overtime appropriation by  
18       thirty percent. Through working closely with Lisa  
19       Metter in Labor Relations, work rule changes have  
20       been implemented and sustained. Your mandate has  
21       been sustained. Even though we encumbered ten  
22       percent of this account early in the year when a  
23       leak was discovered that flooded several floors and  
24       courtrooms of the historical landmark at Twenty-

1 Sixth and California, we opened that courthouse  
2 without disruption.

Facilities Management has done more with less, completing many construction projects that were outside of our mission. I didn't ask for more money or manpower. We delivered. We delivered big-time this past year, completing projects at the privately-managed George W. Dunne facility, otherwise known as 69 West Washington, saving Information Technology and Homeland Security taxpayer dollars in excess of forty to one hundred percent.

1 Wood for the Sheriff's Fugitive Warrant Division at  
2 less than \$100,00 when estimates from the private  
3 sector came in at about \$2.5 million. Our dynamic  
4 tradesmen from COUPE completed this project in less  
5 than a month.

1 full-time employees at no cost.

2                   In closing, I would like to point out  
3 that we were the recipient of our fifth straight  
4 national award. The 2013 program was transparency  
5 and accountability. We are thankful to the National  
6 Association of Counties for recognizing our efforts  
7 in management and administration.

8                   I believe it is very important to  
9 point out that this past year Facilities Management  
10 has also engaged thirty-four additional small  
11 businesses in our system, expanding the minority-  
12 and women-owned businesses and small businesses in  
13 this County; a goal that this department didn't  
14 measure -- we simply delivered.

15                   I am available for questions, Mr.  
16 Chairman, and Commissioners.

17                   CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Gainer.

18                   COMMISSIONER GAINER: Thank you, Jim.

19                   I wanted to inquire about the status  
20 of the two 399 apprentices and kind of what your  
21 general feeling has been about that program.

22                   MR. D'AMICO: Commissioner, if I recall  
23 correctly that was a program that was an amendment a  
24 few years ago. I believe it was an amendment

1 sponsored by you.

2 COMMISSIONER GAINER: It was. Thank you  
3 for the tee-up. I wasn't going to go there. I got  
4 it in the system, but how is it actually working?

5 MR. D'AMICO: I can tell you that the two  
6 apprentice engineers, Mr. Valdez and Mr. Sherman,  
7 one has received their license. He is the first  
8 engineer that has gotten his degree in engineering.  
9 Mr. Valdez is currently working towards his license.  
10 He has a recommendation from a chief engineer to  
11 become a licensed engineer.

12 The two men, although young, are very  
13 ambitious, wanting to learn the physical plan. I  
14 think it offered us many different pluses to our  
15 workforce to have a young couple of men that wanted  
16 to learn. We received two men at a very cheap rate.

17 In the future, that is really where  
18 this Board should go, to have apprentices throughout  
19 the system so that we are teaching. There is no  
20 more Washburne Trade School. If you are not  
21 developing an in-house workforce -- it is kind of  
22 like a farm system. If you have got a good farm  
23 system, you are going to wind up with a good  
24 ballclub.

1                   I guess, in short, to answer your  
2 question: It has been a wonderful addition. You  
3 made a difference in two young men's lives.

4                   COMMISSIONER GAINER: Andrea, if people are  
5 moving to the apprentice program, do we include a  
6 replacement to have additional apprentices?

7                   MS. GIBSON: I don't believe there are any  
8 other additional apprentices contemplated in the  
9 budget right now.

10                  Jim, you don't have any more in your  
11 budget, do you?

12                  MR. D'AMICO: I do not

13                  MS. GIBSON: I will check the hospital  
14 system, but I don't recall if there are additional.

15                  COMMISSIONER GAINER: Have the two that we  
16 did two years completed their apprentice programs?

17                  MR. D'AMICO: One has and the other has  
18 not. He has not taken the test yet.

19                  COMMISSIONER GAINER: How do you think this  
20 would work? 399, the Operating Engineers, apply  
21 themselves to a bunch of different functions. Do  
22 you think this could work with other trades?

23                  MR. D'AMICO: Absolutely.

24                  COMMISSIONER GAINER: Andrea, I'm going to

1 follow up with you on that. I would like to look at  
2 getting some additional positions in there. Because  
3 to Jim's point we would probably get the work at  
4 half the rate than we are, and growing people into  
5 the future, so I will follow up with you on that.

6 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Vice Chair Sims.

7 COMMISSIONER SIMS: I am glad to hear you  
8 have an apprentice program. I had not heard about  
9 that. What are you doing about the people that did  
10 not go through the apprenticeship program that are  
11 not certified and have not been promoted? I  
12 understand if you got an apprenticeship program  
13 there is a movement. When you have some guys that  
14 are already certified and have not moved into  
15 different positions, are the apprentices going to  
16 take precedence over the guys that may be just  
17 waiting to be put into the positions?

18 MR. D'AMICO: Commissioner, that's a great  
19 question because my plan actually is to have the  
20 engineer I position, once both of the apprentices  
21 reach their journeyman's status, to have a  
22 promotional opportunity in-house. They will be able  
23 to apply and be interviewed and seek the  
24 opportunity, if they would like.

1                   COMMISSIONER SIMS: What will happen to the  
2 guys that are already certified? Will these guys  
3 jump over them?

4                   MR. D'AMICO: They are already engineers.

5                   COMMISSIONER SIMS: The apprentice. You  
6 have some guys that have already taken the test that  
7 are certified. They are looking to move into a  
8 higher level position. Will the apprentices take  
9 precedence over the guys that are already there and  
10 certified and have gotten all their things that they  
11 need?

12                  MR. D'AMICO: Commissioner, there will be  
13 only one other classification that would have a  
14 license. That would be the mechanical assistant or  
15 fireman or fireman helper. They are all kind of in  
16 the same group as a mechanical assistant. Yes,  
17 there are several of them that do have an engineer's  
18 license.

19                  What has occurred and what will  
20 continue to occur is that whenever there is an  
21 opening we post it on Taleo. The individuals from  
22 anywhere or in-house can apply. Then, of course,  
23 there is a randomizer to select the ten individuals  
24 that we will interview. They will then, obviously,

1 choose the selected candidate.

2                   COMMISSIONER SIMS: I would hope that this  
3 would be a fair choosing and it would not be the new  
4 people. I think if it is fair, fair is fair. But  
5 if you start to see all of the apprentices, the  
6 young people that have gone through the apprentice  
7 program start getting the promotions and the guys  
8 that already have the certificate and the other  
9 things that they need are still sitting there, that  
10 doesn't appear to be fair.

11                  MR. D'AMICO: I do understand you, but  
12 there are two separate classifications.

13                  COMMISSIONER SIMS: I think they wrote that  
14 you're going down. Be careful because if it appears  
15 that the guys that are going through certification  
16 are the ones that are going to jump over other guys,  
17 you're going to have total chaos in your shop.

18                  MR. D'AMICO: It is also all related to  
19 Shakman.

20                  COMMISSIONER SIMS: I get that.

21                  COMMISSIONER GAINER: Can I just make one  
22 point?

23                  CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Gainer.

24                  COMMISSIONER GAINER: Commissioners, one of

1 the other opportunities with the apprentice is that  
2 you could be trained here and get a job elsewhere.  
3 Just like someone could have done their  
4 apprenticeship somewhere else and got a job at the  
5 County. It was creating another venue for training  
6 to put more people out into the pipeline.

7 To Mr. D'Amico's point, if there is an  
8 opening of an engineer, they have to open it and  
9 post it. Maybe one of these guys applies; maybe  
10 they don't. Maybe another mechanical assistant  
11 applies. There is no special path for the  
12 apprentices.

13 COMMISSIONER SIMS: That is my point.

14 MR. D'AMICO: On that point, there is no  
15 special path. You would be very surprised,  
16 Commissioners. It happens to us all the time. We  
17 will look at a list and we are stunned that people  
18 don't apply. It is an individual and family  
19 decision. The mechanical apprentices, they work  
20 days. If they choose to become an engineer, you are  
21 on the bottom of the list and you are going to be on  
22 a split shift and more than likely it will affect  
23 your family's regular process.

24 COMMISSIONER SIMS: I get that. I just

1 want to make sure that there is no special --

2 MR. D'AMICO: There is no special path.

3 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Suffredin.

4 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: Thank you, Mr.

5 Chairman, and ladies and gentlemen of the Committee.

6 Yesterday we received an Inspector  
7 General's report indicating that some of our highway  
8 engineers did not have the proper licensure. Do we  
9 have a process in place to ensure that everybody who  
10 needs a license has a license and that it is valid?

11 MR. D'AMICO: Commissioner, absolutely.

12 When we post on Taleo, they have to supply Taleo and  
13 upload their license so that the license is  
14 available in the interview.

15 The only problem that we have come  
16 into -- this is across engineering, and I mean this  
17 with the stationary engineers. The City of Chicago  
18 -- Local 399 has advertised it in their newsletter  
19 and everyone is well aware of it -- is very behind  
20 in issuing licenses to our engineers. That is the  
21 only problem.

22 As a building owner, a stationary  
23 engineer has to have their license hung in the  
24 boiler room so that they operate the boilers and the

1 chillers.

2                   COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: The Inspector  
3 General wasn't talking about the hiring end. He was  
4 talking about people who had been there for a while  
5 who let their licenses lapse or maybe embellished  
6 their credentials when the hiring wasn't as strict.  
7 So you do have some kind of a procedure so that we  
8 don't end up with an Inspector General report?

9                   MR. D'AMICO: I do have a procedure, and  
10 annually, Commissioner, what happens is in our  
11 payroll department the engineers have to submit  
12 their licenses. We talk about it to make sure that  
13 the individuals are up to par. If they are not,  
14 they are sent to the Local, which also does a great  
15 job of reminding them that it is time to recertify.

16                   COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: Thank you.

17                   MR. D'AMICO: You're welcome.

18                   CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Moore.

19                   COMMISSIONER MOORE: Thank you.

20                   Good afternoon, Jim.

21                   MR. D'AMICO: Good afternoon, Commissioner.

22                   COMMISSIONER MOORE: Jim, I just want to  
23 say that you are doing a good job. I think your  
24 office is doing a great job of being really

1 responsive to requests. I want to say  
2 congratulations on the well-deserved award that you  
3 received.

4 I do have a concern that I want to  
5 talk to you about. It is the relationship between  
6 Facilities and Capital. Recently, Capital gave the  
7 Commissioners a presentation where they hired a  
8 firm, an outside firm, to record all of the County's  
9 assets in order to document projects to eliminate  
10 the duplication of services.

11 How is Capital and Facilities working  
12 to notify one another when they take on a project,  
13 one that might be on the same docket of each  
14 department to be done? How do the two departments  
15 work together to record and track work that needs to  
16 be done or completed?

17 MR. D'AMICO: Commissioner, we have a  
18 dedicated liaison from our compliance team who  
19 attends the monthly meetings with Capital Planning.  
20 What we have done in the last two years, the Capital  
21 Department has given us JOC funding. Susan, who is  
22 that individual, goes to those meetings and reports  
23 the progress on the JOB funding, which was given to  
24 us last year in a total of \$2.5 million. Then at

1 those meetings there are discussions of what the  
2 status of the projects that are currently underway  
3 are -- of course, we have to report on what we are  
4 doing.

5 So there is collaboration.

6 COMMISSIONER MOORE: When I was there with  
7 you guys, I know one of the difficult challenges was  
8 who housed the blueprints. Who had the warranties  
9 for the various things that we fixed? How do I know  
10 if it is at Facilities? How do I know if it is at  
11 Capital? How do I know if it is kept at Facilities  
12 itself, in the building?

21 We have all of that information and it  
22 is housed in our house.

23 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Like the warranties,  
24 for a roof repair, for a new boiler -- who houses

1 all of that? Is there one central housing location  
2 for that?

3 MR. D'AMICO: It is. It is in our business  
4 office. Ms. Belinda Henderson, who is behind me,  
5 keeps the records. Most recently, at the morgue,  
6 Doctor Cina called me and told me of a leak. We  
7 immediately turned to the warranty. We found it was  
8 under warranty. The roofer was out onsite and  
9 Doctor Cina couldn't have been more satisfied.

10 COMMISSIONER MOORE: That was -- help me  
11 out -- who was the roofer?

12 MR. D'AMICO: It was National Roofing.

13 COMMISSIONER MOORE: National Roofing -- a  
14 good guy.

15 Thank you.

16 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Tobolski.

17 COMMISSIONER TOBOLSKI: Thank you, Mr.  
18 Chairman.

19 Jimmy, were you recognized again this  
20 year?

21 MR. D'AMICO: We were.

22 COMMISSIONER TOBOLSKI: I want to  
23 congratulate you on that. Yesterday I was walking  
24 through one of the buildings in McCook, where I wear

1 another hat. A gentleman that does consulting said:  
2 Here is the problem, Mr. Mayor. Part of the wall is  
3 bowed this way. The outside part of the wall is  
4 bowed this way. We don't know which part of the  
5 wall to remove to prevent the whole building from  
6 coming down.

7 It is tough when you have  
8 infrastructure that is old. You seem like Scotty on  
9 Star Trek. You're running around trying to do the  
10 best you can.

11 I just want to say that I think you do  
12 a fantastic job. The complaints are less and less.  
13 We all heard it when we first got here. I think we  
14 see it across the board. Again, two years in a row  
15 to be nationally recognized. We talked about other  
16 areas where we had issues, and you stepped in and  
17 resolved those nicely.

18 Not necessarily that everybody walked  
19 away, one way or the other, but everybody walked  
20 away with a little something. That is always a good  
21 day for government and a good day for business.

22 Congratulations on the award. Just  
23 keep doing what you are doing.

24 MR. D'AMICO: Thank you, Commissioner.

1 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Vice Chair Sims.  
2 COMMISSIONER SIMS: Correct me if I am  
3 wrong. Didn't we have some litigation with National  
4 Roofing?

5 MR. D'AMICO: I don't know. They build it.  
6 I own it. Capital would go out --

7 CHAIRMAN DALEY: They would answer that.

8 MR. D'AMICO: Yes.

9 COMMISSIONER SIMS: That is a question for  
10 them?

11 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Capital is in tomorrow.

12 COMMISSIONER SIMS: Thank you.

13 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Any other questions?

14 Thank you very much, Jim, for the  
15 outstanding job that you have done.

16 MR. D'AMICO: Thank you, Commissioners, and  
17 Mr. Chairman.

18 CHAIRMAN DALEY: This Committee will stand  
19 in recess to the hour of 9:00 a.m. tomorrow, which  
20 is Friday, October 18, when we will hear from the  
21 Bureau of Administration, Economic Development,  
22 Technology, and Human Resources.

I certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript of the original shorthand notes of proceedings in the above-entitled matter.

---

Anthony W. Lisanti  
Official Court Reporter

Date